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AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

Starting at page 31, line 12 and ending at page 32, line 4, please replace the entire paragraph by:

A 3.12% (by weight) solution was prepared by diluting with a buffer a stock solution of polymerizable FOCALSEAL-S macromer (10% by weight) as described above (i.e., FOCALSEAL-S macromers includes PEG with molecular weight $19,400 \pm 4000$ Daltons, trimethylene carbonate ("TMC") monomers in a ratio of at least six or seven TMC molecules to each PEG, typically twelve to thirteen TMC molecules to each PEG, and lactide monomers, typically four lactide molecules to each PEG molecule, with a maximum of five lactide monomers to each PEG then end-capped with acrylate groups). A 10.0 g formulation of the 3.12% solution contained: 3.12 g of the stock solution, 332.0 mg N-Vinyl-Caprolactam, 6.55 g buffer (containing 0.035 g Triethanolamine, 0.052 g Monobasic-Potassium Phosphate, 1.25 μ L t-butylhydroxide (70% in water) and 0.26 mg Eosin Y). Gels were prepared using 0.6 g -0.8 g of this formulation and illuminated to induce photopolymerization of the macromers at room temperature using blue green light (450-550 nm, Xenon source) at about 100 mW per square cm., for 80 seconds. The gels were placed into 200 mL of DI water at room temperature and allowed to soak for approximately 60 minutes. Water was decanted from gels. Fresh 200 mL DI water was added again and gels allowed to soak for an additional 35 minutes. Gels were collected using a coarse sintered glass funnel then transferred gels into a 250 mL tall beaker containing approximately 100 mL DI water. Gels were shredded for 60 seconds at 30,000 rpm using a Virtis Microprocessor with ultra fine blade (#255193). Gel particles were collected using a medium size sintered glass filter. Approximately 30 mL of Gel particles/water suspension was subsequently lyophilized.

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